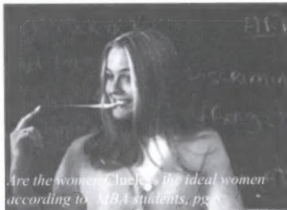


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Happy Holidays from The Bell Ringer



State Champions "bonding" during a timeout.
pgs. 4-5



Are the women's Clinics the ideal women
according to MBA students, pgs.



Cross Country repeats as
State Champions, pgs.

Montgomery Bell Academy



Bell Ringer



Montgomery Bell Academy 4001 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205 December 18, 1998 Volume 55 Number 3

State Champs

Defense Leads Football Team to Clinic Bowl Win

By Ben Thompson

In 1968, the year before the TSSAA went to a playoff format to decide the official state champion, the MBA football team was crowned

after joining the private school division of the TSSAA. MBA suffered a bitter loss to arch rival Father Ryan in the Clinic Bowl at Vanderbilt. The 1998 senior football players experienced enough of these playoff heartbreakers, and they vowed not to let it happen again this season.



Quarterback John Thompson calls a play for the Big Red in the Clinic Bowl victory

champion of Tennessee. Since then, MBA had not regained that crown, despite coming close several times in recent years.

In 1995 MBA fell to Brentwood Academy in the semi-final round of the state tournament. In 1996, one of MBA's most talented teams again fell short to the Eagles in double overtime in a game that easily could have gone either way. Last year,

The Big Red's championship run began on October 30 in the final home game of the regular season versus the McCallie Blue Tornadoes. A loss would potentially eliminate MBA from playoff contention.

The Big Red came out strong on defense and took a 14-7 lead at the half. The seniors led the way in the second half, as



Brentwood Academy's running attack about to get stuffed at the line of scrimmage

MBA outscored McCallie 27-6. Defensive end Hunter Hillenmeyer blocked a punt to shift the momentum. The Big Red rolled behind the offensive play of senior running back David McIntosh, who scored four touchdowns in the

See "Football," pg. 4

Cross-Country Team Meets Goal, Repeats as Champs

By Jeff Sweeney

The MBA cross country team began the season with one goal in mind: to repeat as state. Returning four of last year's top seven—senior David Dean (last

brought home four varsity top twenty t-shirts, seven junior-varsity top twenty t-shirts, a second-place varsity trophy, and a first-place junior-varsity trophy.



David Dean runs towards a victory at the State Championship meet

On October 22, the cross country team competed in the first of three meets leading up to the state championship, the Metro Championship. The team won this meet with David Dean finishing first, William Lea finishing second, and Adrian Cameron finishing sixth.

On Thursday, October 29, at 10:30 A.M., the varsity competed in the Division II Regional Championship. With all seven of our varsity runners - David Dean,

Morgan Miller, William Lea, Adrian See "Cross-Country," pg. 5

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Construction of Science Building Forges Ahead

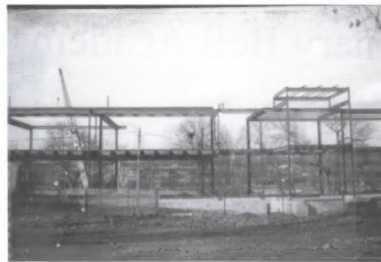
By Michael Lewis

I recently had the privilege of taking a tour of the construction site out front with Mr. Hinton, who is our chief architect, and Mr. Gioia. The tour lasted for close to an hour, and I was able to view parts of the site that are completely off-limits to most students. Although it was a little boring at first, the tour proved to be fascinating.

The first thing I learned was that MBA's campus is situated on some of the most unstable ground in Middle Tennessee. Some of you might have noticed the decimation taking place on what used to be the front lawn. The intense digging and blasting that took place earlier this year was necessary because of witches' brew of giant boulders and soil on our campus. Some very complex and advanced construction methods must be used to prevent the new building from collapsing. Essentially, the builders had to dig about twenty feet down to reach solid rock. On this rock they have built huge pillars of concrete reinforced with steel beams to hold up the new buildings.

The more advanced of the two buildings going up is the new science

facility. Although Mr. Hinton likened the steel girders going up at this point to



With the steel beams and concrete foundation having been put up, the construction crew is working on putting down the metal flooring on which they will put the concrete to make the ceilings and floors of this three story building

huge "tinker-toys," the new science center will be state-of-the-art. In addition to the construction of several new classrooms, there will be a 150-seat lecture hall and a large meeting room

with a birds-eye view of the campus in the science center. The odd looking square structure on top of what appears to be the entrance to the building is the place where the new meeting room will be constructed. The odd-looking steel triangles, jutting off the steel girders, will support huge bay windows that will be incorporated into every classroom. Upon the round, detached-looking section of the foundation will be situated the new lecture hall.

The addition to the Massey Building will be done in a "block-construction" style. Basically, this means that the addition will be done less expensively and more quickly than the new science facility. The addition to Massey includes a new meeting hall,

several additional classrooms, and a new façade facing Harding Road. A new entrance to the school will also be built so that one can enter the school from the Harding Road-Cherokee Road intersection.

During the tour, Mr. Gioia excitedly pointed out the additions to our campus and outlined his broad new vision for MBA. He sees MBA expanding in all directions; among these projected goals are the acquisition of all the properties on Brighton Ave. as well as the Vine Street Christian Church in order to build new athletic facilities. One could see the glimmer of inspiration in Mr. Gioia's eyes as he looked out over the campus with a bold new view of the future in mind. I heard voiced among the students taking the tour with me, however, a few reservations about the whole project. "I would just like to keep things the way they are," said Hunter Hillenmeyer. I would agree with Hunter, but anyone who takes a science class in a dungeon under the gym knows MBA needs more space. I only hope we can preserve the character of the campus in our present and future expansions.

Arts History, Theater Students Take Trip to Chicago

By Robert Womack

Members of AP Art History, Theater Arts, and Art Studio boarded a plane on the day before fall break to head off to Chicago. The twelve students, along with Dr. Fuller, Mrs. Paschall, and Mr. Womack were looking forward to seeing some wonderful theatrical performances along with some fantastic art exhibits, along with sampling some fine culinary delights while in the windy city. Indeed, all of these factors culminated in a worthwhile experience for the students and the teachers.

However, some other interesting things did occur while traveling through the city. First, while exiting the plane, Mason Guiffre displayed his wonderful athletic talents, managing to drop his portable discman on another passenger while getting it out from the compartment above. Needless to say, the passenger was not pleased. Mason, the gracious man that he is, managed to mutter an apology to the man, and then quickly exited the plane along with the rest of the group. That night before setting out to go see a production, the group went to a stir-fry buffet, something absolutely foreign to most of us, living in Nashville. After gorging ourselves with all the stir fry we could ever eat, along with mountains of brownies and whipped cream, the students and faculty went to a

Second City production, which is a breeding ground for Saturday Night Live actors and actresses. The actors performed planned skits mostly, but in a few instances, they did purely impromptu work, and it was a great beginning to the trip. Some other productions observed were Much Ado About Nothing and Berlin Circle. We saw these plays late at night, and besides the fact that we had walked forever and ever and ever, we managed to stay awake and enjoy these two productions as well. Berlin Circle was performed in the famous Steppenwolf theater. In addition to seeing the theatrical performances, the group also toured the theatrical complex of Dr. Fuller's former stomping grounds, Northwestern University. The campus was, by everybody's agreement, an awesome place, and we managed to hit it on an absolutely perfect morning. Along with seeing all of these performances, we managed to spend a good part of a morning in the Art Institute of Chicago, which was so great that we actually had

to pull Ryan Shea out of there. On exhibit there were a large collection of Mary Cassatt works. We also went to the Terra Museum of American Art, which had an exhibit of the photographs



Group outside of Museum of Contemporary Art (clockwise from top left): Mrs. Rosie Paschall, Ryan Shea, Noah Scott, Robert Womack, Mason Giraffe, Stephen Was, Miles Warfield, Russ Martin, Matt Davis, William Kaminski, Jesse Bull, Dr. Cal Fuller, Cal Alexander, Wil Moss, and Mr. Jim Womack

of Robert Capa on display, a famous W.W.II photographer. The last museum observed was the Museum of Contemporary Art, which for some was fantastic, while others were trying to figure out what these artists were thinking. We

spent a good part of the afternoon in there, and again Mason managed to provide the group with some entertainment by managing to kick Noah Scott's hackey-sack on top of the museum. However, Mason did buy Noah a new sack when we went to the John Hancock Building to overlook Chicago. The picture for this article was taken at the Museum of Contemporary Art. And if you're wondering what that little yellow thing is in Mason's jacket, that is "Evil Bendy," a gift to Mason from Mrs. Paschall. She thought that they would be great friends, and she was right. They turned out to be inseparable. He would allow no one to touch Evil Bendy by any means. Along with these outings to theaters and museums, the group made great strides in getting to know the natives of Chicago. Just ask Miles Warfield about his delightful encounter with a mendicant in the subway. And while on the subway, the students saw Jesus. He was carrying a large wooden cross on his back while wearing red Reeboks.

The students and faculty on this trip couldn't have asked for anything more. They saw wonderful museums and productions, while getting to see Jesus. All in all, this trip was a resounding success, and future Fine Arts students should really take this opportunity next year to go to Chicago.

News

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The Bell Ringer is a nonprofit newspaper operated and published by and for the students of Montgomery Bell Academy. Views expressed in The Bell Ringer do not necessarily represent those held by the staff or school.

Letters to the editor are encouraged, and can be given in a number of the editorial staff, or sent to ringers@montgomerybell.com. These letters must be signed, but names will be withheld on request. Letters will be edited for length if necessary.

The staff of The Bell Ringer prepares all copy, headlines, and photographs at Montgomery Bell Academy. 2160 Kentucky Highway in Nashville, Tennessee, prints the paper.

News Briefs

By Gabe Roth

Exams, Once Again, to be Taken After Students Return from Winter Break

For as long as students and faculty can remember, first semester exams have been taken after students return from winter break.

And this year will be no different.

So all 600 of us have a good two week period in which we can and will forget sixteen weeks of material and then try to remember it all the night before the exam (and I say, "the night before" because when we get back from break, we have eight days—not to study, but in which the teachers will introduce new material that we will not only have a test over before break but also be responsible for it on the exam).

The whole point of break, as one teacher remarked, is to forget everything and not have to worry about it when you return to school.

Other area schools, such as Harpeth Hall, and all Metro schools, including the "Magnet Schools" have exams before break, while Harpeth Hall adds a three week "Winter" period in which students can learn about things beyond the classroom.

Anonymity Policy of Bell Ringer Upheld

After talking about the issue on many occasions, the Bell Ringer editors have decided to keep its policy of withholding the name of the writer of a controversial article—or any article for that matter—upon request. They noted the fact that the anonymity policy has existed for many years and has helped make students feel that their opinions, especially if it is not mainstream, can be printed in the paper without any repercussions coming from other students.

This policy came into question after the controversial "Football Wall" article and the also controversial "Fitness Test" article—both of which by now have had at least one, in some cases, three, rebuttals to the original article—were printed in the first and second issue of the Bell Ringer, respectively. Both of these articles were printed on the condition that the name of the writer be withheld.

Jay Davis, Hunter Hillenmeyer Honored

Kicker/receiver Jay Davis and lineman Hunter Hillenmeyer were recently honored by area football coaches with special awards revealed at the coaches' end-of-the-season banquet. These awards were voted on by the coaches of Division II football.

Jay won the award for outstanding special teams player for his kicking of numerous field goals and extra points throughout the season, and Hunter won an MVP award for his work on the defensive line.

Their trophies, which resemble the Heisman Trophy without the Heisman's staff arms, were given out at a recent assembly.

Congratulations to these two student athletes.

Bell Ringer Accepting Letters to the Editor

With all of the controversy stemming from "Opinions" articles and from the controversy the "Fell on High School Women" will most likely bring, the Bell Ringer and Editor-in-Chief David Yi have started accepting "Letters to the Editor."

Mr. Redmond's and Mr. Tillman's article on the importance of fitness tests is once such letter and more are welcome.

Corrections

In the last issue of the Bell Ringer, we reported incorrectly the damage that was done to the debate building.

Also, Andrew Thomson's article on the 1998 NBA College Tour was not meant to be scathing, though the title seemed to indicate the contrary. Despite its inherent cynicism, the article was meant only to be a summary of the tour, not a review of the choices of colleges on the tour.

On a different note, Brad McDowell's article about the grill team had to be edited for length and many funny parts were deleted based on a misappropriation of space.

The Bell Ringer regrets these errors and any other errors that Johnny "I promise I'll write an article for you" Sick or any other students or faculty members have brought to the attention of the editors.

Sports

"Weird People with Rifles is not Good"

—A wise old man

Toil, Torment, and the Thrill of Victory: The Story of the 1998-99 Rifle Team

By Andrew Thomison

I can always tell that it has been a slow news for the Bell Ringer quarter

(How often does the paper come out? Once every four, five weeks? When Gabe Roth sits down to lunch with that "I need a favor" look on his face. Usually, he starts the conversation this way: "Hey Andrew, I need a favor and inevitably ends up asking me to write another article about the Rifle Team. So, being the nice, helpful guy that I am, I always agree to his request. I mean, he could ask the Bowling Team to come up with an article or see what's going on over at the Math Club. I should consider it an honor that he comes to me first, right?)

Even though it's been a slow news quarter for the rifle team, too, and writing another article about the Rifle Team can be compared to pounding a horse carcass with a crowbar, I'll give it a shot. (And anyone who takes that last bit as a pun needs to be shipped at least a few times.) Here goes nothing...

Okay, sports fans, here's your long anticipated update on what's been going on over at the MBA rifle range. (Oh, that's right, MBA doesn't have a rifle range. We shoot in the cafeteria. My mistake.) To sum it up:

Number of teams we've stomped into the ground: more than I can count on my fingers.

Number of teams who have stomped us into the ground: maybe a few, tops.

Number of teams who have stomped us into the ground then dived around the hole singing and making obscene waving gestures: just those evil Davis sisters from Georgia. What is it with them anyway?

As our second quarter, we are one damn good rifle team. Right now, we are probably one of the top 10 high school teams in the nation. We've been getting better every year simply because none of our shooters have graduated yet (not to imply that we're not smart enough to anything... well, most of us).

Oh, and one last thing—just a few

weeks ago we beat a team from Chugiak (hmmm, the spell checker's gonna fix that one), Alaska, for the first time. That may not sound impressive, but those guys have nothing better to do all winter except shoot. They're pretty good. (On a random subject, their football team came down here last summer and got stomped by BA. Now that's embarrassing. To come all the way down here and get your face rubbed in the dirt...)

Well, I've managed to churn out yet another newspaper article about the rifle team. It's amazing what can happen when you've got space that's got to be filled. What would you ever do without me, Gabe?



Four shooter Andrew Thomison is disappointed not only because he has to write another rifle article, but also because he never once again has had to shoot infamous Davis sisters.

Football (cont. from pg.1)

game. After the win, the team was ready to shift its focus to its first playoff opponent, Father Ryan, on Friday, November 13.

As it did in the homecoming game on October 9, the MBA defense, anchored by senior linebacker Ben Horn, David Farrell, and Hiltmeyer, and

linebackers Todd Poyvent and Cole Barfield, shut the Irish down. The Big Red allowed only one field goal the whole game. McInnis again led the offensive attack.

The stage was set for the November 21 Clinic Bowl. MBA faced Brentwood Academy, who had pummeled McCallie in the first round of the playoffs to advance in the championship game.

This rematch against BA held special importance to the team not only because the Eagles had beaten the Big Red in three of their last four contests, but also because coach Tom Moore left MBA last year to become the assistant head to Carlton Platt's job as head football coach at BA.

A week of condensed and concise practice left the Big Red refreshed and ready for the big game. The bowl began with a bang and ended in a similar fashion. MBA jumped on the Eagles early, forcing a fumble and then punching the ball into the endzone on a three yard pass from John Thompson to Tom Rodriguez. McInnis soon scored a second touchdown for the Big Red, making the score 14-0. BA answered with a score of its own, but the extra point sailed wide of the uprights keeping the score 14-6. Clinic Bowl offensive MVP, McInnis extended the Big Red's lead to 21-6 with sixty-nine yard

scrumptious into the endzone. The Eagles scored a touchdown to end the half, but futility of these special teams continued on a second missed extra point attempt. The Big Red walked into the Vandy locker room with a 21-12 lead. Once again, it would be defense that would decide the game for MBA. In the third quarter

Brentwood drove and scored a touchdown, finally making PAT. After the score, the defense carried the team. Both offenses repeated dramatic (and) under 2 minutes left in the fourth quarter. BA miraculously completed a long bomb that brought them within the



"BA has all the great players," said Moore and Mr. Football Lineman Paulie Hiltmeyer. "But we have a pretty great team. That's why we won State."

MBA 10 yard line. The defense made its most impressive stand of the year. After a key Poyvent sack pushed BA back, the Eagles went to the endzone with 1:12 remaining. Barfield caught a Barton Simmons's tipped ball on the 5 yard line. After the offense downed the ball three



Big Red offense did pounce on the line of scrimmage during their win in the semi-finals against Father Ryan.

times, the team stormed the field and hoisted the state championship trophy for the first time in 30 years.

By playing as a team and sacrificing as a team, the 1998 MBA Big Red brought true glory to their 100th year of football.



Dean stands tall at the top of the podium as he relishes his and the team's victory.

Cross-Country cont. from pg. 1)

Cameron, Brandon Booth, Phillip Simpson, and Hunter Verner - in the top ten, the varsity cavity won. In the last meet of its season, the junior-varsity team, led by Seniors Patrick Wall and Elijah Reynolds who finished second and third respectively, finished first.

Going into the State Meet, the MBA cross-country team was ranked fourteenth in the state and third in its division. On Saturday, November 7, the varsity team and five alternates - Senior Paymon Roshanfarid,

Senior Patrick Wall, Senior Elijah Reynolds, Senior J.R. Radolph, and Sophomore Jeff Sweeney - showed up ready to run. With the cheering team cheering them on, the varsity gave an outstanding showing in the race. David Dean finished first with a 15:11 (a new school record and the fastest time of all the races) and William Lee finished fourth. Also in the top fifteen medalists were Adrian Cameron, who finished sixth, and Morgan Miller, who finished eleventh. Phillip Simpson,

Hunter Verner, and Brandon Booth also ran exceptionally well, finishing nineteenth, twenty-eighth, and thirty-first, respectively. In the end, MBA won the state, beating out Baylor by eleven points.

The cross-country team would like to thank everyone who came out to the meet; the seniors - David Dean, Adrian Cameron, Hunter Verner, Patrick Wall, Paymon Roshanfarid, Elijah Reynolds, J.R. Radolph, Jess Ziberna, Peter Chen, Thomas Wesley, and Alex Harwell - for all their leadership; and the coaches - Mr. Pruitt, Mr. Corzine,

Mr. Leach, and Mr. Callen - for encouraging the team all season long. Congratulations to David, William, Adrian, Morgan, Phillip, Brandon, and J.R. for making the All-Metro team. With four returning varsity runners and a strong returning JV squad, the team hopes for a three-peat next year.



Dean forges ahead and prepares to overtake the lead runners.

Look Ahead to Swimming

By Andrew Frazer

"We will win Region," Coach Rundberg said on the first day of practice for the MBA Swim Team.

All-American and Region and State record setting swimmers Jonathan Bland, Adrian Cameron, Peter Chen, and Chris Kellars again lead the perennially powerful team. The team's current dual meet record is 2-0, averaging victories by more than 40 points over University School of Nashville, Brentwood Academy, and Hendersonville. This year's

team is the biggest in MBA history with swimmers from every grade, 7-12.

Baylor and McCallie have finished first and second respectively with MBA third in the state meet for many years and seems immortal in the swimming ranks. In January MBA has dual meets against both schools and Bowling Green; all have defeated us before. With many strong swimmers graduating after this year, 1999 is the best chance at a state championship.

First-ever Bowling Team Experiences Early Success New MBA Sport Opens Inaugural Season 1-1

By Tee Isenhour and Josh Eaves

The first ever endeavor in interscholastic bowling by any administration having any thing to do with the MBA community, earned this winter sport success.

The team has been limited in their practice, but they still remain have a remarkable 1-1-0 record in competition.

Their first ever match was a successful victory over St. Cecilia, the mighty across-the-street neighbors, referred to as the "Fighting Ladybugs" by Commander Carr.

The team was struggling at first, but led by a late high score by Elliott Kyle and consistency throughout by Tee Isenhour, the Big Red unit, also consisting of Josh Ritter, Nathaniel "the Chief" Beaver, Cooper Semich, Andrew Eckstein, and captain Josh Eaves and Taylor Sutherland, pulled out a strong finish in front of the home crowd.

This win solidified that the new sports dynasty on Harding Road was in full swing and definitely here to stay.

Although they are clearly the leaders in the their own region, their meeting with the powerhouse Light-house Christian left much to be desired.

Andrew managed a mighty 175, but was still denied by a man with a pull coat for his bowling ball and ten years experience.

Josh Eaves and Taylor also bowled well, and pulled off some victories, but there was a lack of points coming from the other triplet.

The team obviously has a very bright future, and has a relatively easy schedule for the rest of the season, one with only two big name challenges on it. The first of which will be

Glenciff, then followed by the hated purple people from Franklin Road. The match against FRA will be held in early February, so keep your calendars open.

This team hopes to expand over the next few years to include more members and to practice more frequently.

With all of the excitement going on at MBA, we feel that a set of bowling lanes would not be too much to ask, especially in light of the success of this sport.

Finally, if you want to see some hand-fisting, ball-in-pin action, come visit the team at the Play-Away bowling lanes off Charleston.

The sport of bowling, though not yet an official varsity sport is going to be around for the long haul, and you can bet on that.



Bowling team members (l-r) Tee Isenhour, Josh Eaves, and Taylor Sutherland display how the first year squad is going to win its matches. Also just by taking the team and the rest of their competition.



Josh and Taylor pose with the stable. Josh, Junior class president, and Taylor, our golfer, may not seem likely members of the Bowling Team, but their ability and inspiration has helped the team immensely.

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Weenie Bowl

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Golf Team's Win in Weenie Bowl Proves Superiority

By Miller Harrison

On an unseasonably warm night in early December, the golf team and the cross-country team stepped out under the lights of Tommy Owen Stadium for the annual clash of the titans, the Weenie Bowl.

The opening drives hinted that this game would be a close one, and the score remained tied at 3-3 as teams traded scores. But an interception by Noble Judy and a devastating injury to David Dean quickly turned the tide towards the overpowering golf team.

Led by legendary coach Jimmy the Greek, the golf team's strategy proved to be superior to that of the skinny runners as the golf team stuck to short passes, screen plays, the power running of Nathaniel Beaver, and the finesse running back Miller Harrison. Quarterback

Brandt Snedeker and the receiver Noble Judy together with blocker/receivers Bob

Duncan Fort proved to be the perfect combination as the golf team started to pull away.

The cross country team tried in vain to come back by using the long pass, but Noble had three more key interceptions, bringing his total to four, which was later found to be a Weenie Bowl record. Daniel Estes added another interception. On offense,

record. Nathaniel Beaver was impossible to tackle with his three touchdowns, running over those brave enough to try to bring him down. The golf team got a spectacular kickoff return for a touchdown as well as two receiving touchdowns from myself, and three important receiving touchdowns from Noble Judy. Bob Cato added a streak down the sidelines for a score as the golf team took the victory and reclaimed their Weenie Bowl title, 10 TDs to 7.

It was a team effort and the golf team deserved the victory. We're just better than those runners are, as Beaver eloquently remarked in assembly.

There has been word of a rematch because of the absence of several cross-country runners, but it is only a rumor. The golf team once again reigns as supreme champions of the Weenie Bowl.



Members of the golf team after their victory. 10 touchdowns to 7, over the cross-country team in the Weenie Bowl, the annual football grudge match between those two sports teams

Cato, Graham Worsham, Daniel Estes, Treat McCalister, Carter Henderson, and

field general Brandt Snedeker threw for nine touchdowns, also a Weenie Bowl

Golf Team: Don't Underestimate the Power of CC

By William Corbett

Golf vs. cross-country; cross-country vs. golf. The Weenie Bowl has come and gone. Last year as some of you may recall, the cross-country team, my team, came out on top. This year, I am sad to say that we lost.

I know, I know what you are saying: "The cross-country team lost? How could they lose to the golf team? Cross-country runs and lifts almost every day while the golf team just hits little balls with clubs."

Our problem this year was definitely our passing game. William Lee and Paymon Rouhaniard, as good as they are at cross-country, should not go out for the football team. At least three times they threw perfect passes...to Noble Judy. And one cannot forget the punt return by Peter Chen that bounced off his chest and back thirty yards towards the Golf team. Our defense was much better. The incredible tackles by Hunter Verner, Adrian Cameron, and Jasa Zibera kept this game close.

I mentioned these things above not to criticize my team. I myself—whose only contributions were to be knocked over several times, bounce off Nathaniel Beaver, and drop a pass—did not have a very stellar game either. I mentioned these things above to show that our team recognizes that we made mistakes and need to work for next year. The golf team played a great game of football.

One must ask himself, can they play a great game of golf? We did what we were supposed to, repeated and won state again this year. Golf, however, made what in state? Ninth or something? We are not expected to play a good game of football. We were overpowered not by

the skill of the golf team, but by their overwhelming size. Just imagine me or Jeff Sweeney trying to stop Nathaniel Beaver or Brandt Snedeker...it's not going to happen.

In response to Nate's speech last Monday, we will take on the golf team in any sport. (As far as a rematch in football, don't underestimate us—one must remember that we did not lose that badly, 10 touchdowns to 7 this year, and last year we won the Bowl, big time.) Basketball, baseball, soccer, curling, water polo, ultimate frisbee, bowling, laser tag, paintball, croquet, cricket, and yes, even badminton, it doesn't matter. Heck, we will even take them on in a debate tournament.

Next year will prepare for the game by bulking up. Sweeney has started building a callus on his head, so the goal post won't do as much damage. Gibbs plays chicken with cars. He broke his leg, but hey, he'll be ready for Beaver next year...oh wait, how many players is the golf team losing? Beaver, Harrison, Judy, Snedeker, and god knows who else. Next year their team will be weaker, ours will be stronger, and their defeat is imminent.

In response to Beaver's speech last Monday, we don't just run around in circles—that's track. If you really think you can take us in any sport, let's run a 10K. Wish the cross-country team luck in taking state again next year and go

support the golf team in hopes that they might take eighth place.

Next year, the cross-country team



One of the few moments of glory for the cross-country team as golf superstar Bob Cato goes down

will still have William "Eton Boy" Lea, Tee "Mr. Soccer" Isenhour, Mason

"Um... scary" Guiffre, DJ "the Thug" Pruitt, Jeff "Goal Post" Sweeney, Morgan "Can Talk Smack but Can't Play Football" Miller, and of course, yours truly.

Instead of going to cross-country camp this coming summer, the cross-country team will attend the Lightning LT Football camp. Up at five, to bed a ten, we'll eat, sleep, and live football. There, we will be trained in the art of how to "open a can of whoop a**." Tackling will be our forte, and we'll be able to catch passes in our sleep. We will even have our own mascot, Coach "Blanche" Leach.

The rivalry is not over, it will never be over. Next year the battle will begin again. The football field will become quiet like the western front littered with dead bodies of the cross-country and golf team. Blood will be shed, limbs will be lost. Beware, golf team, the cross-country team is coming for you.

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Opinions

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Fitness Test Helps to Monitor Students' Health

Dear Editor,

We are responding to the anonymous comments concerning the fitness evaluation program at MBA. There were several issues discussed, questions asked, and misconceptions stated as facts.

Because one does not understand electrical generators and complicated

electrical circuitry does not keep one from benefiting from electric light bulbs anymore than one not knowing what a bench press is to benefit from a good aerobically sound exercise program. The pre-registration physical is a wonderful tool to diagnose heart, blood, or other physical problems.

However, it is not within the scope of the physical to describe an exercise program that will aid in one's physical conditioning that enhances all aspects of living. Because body size and type is genetically related, a student may have a very low percentage of body fat and not be aerobically sound. Finally, as the writer stated, a number of MBA students are "unaware of exercises and other ways to stay fit."

Consequently, the new and improved 1998-1999 version of the MBA Fitness Evaluation will serve a dual purpose as: 1. A complete evaluation of one's fitness and 2. A prescription of exercises for healthy living.

This year's evaluation includes

upper body strength and endurance testing. Another part will test resting heart and blood pressure rates. A three minute step test and a mile run will be used in the diagnosis. Finally, a flexibility test and a percentage body fat assessment will be administered. This battery of tests will be more comprehensive, and,

consequently, will allow us to prescribe an exercise program, unique for each student.

We want all MBA students to participate enthusiastically. This evaluation could be a lifesaver. At the very least, it could affirm that your current exercise program is adequate for a boy your age.

Aging is a difficult process if one is not physically

sound and aerobically ready. The test is for your health benefits and is not designed to cause any consternation.

Fitness testing began in September, and Coach Redmond anticipates completing the evaluations by the winter break.

Again, we want to enhance your days at MBA and, more importantly, your many days after MBA.

Jamie Redmond
Strength and Conditioning Coach

Jamie Tillman
Athletics Director



Mr. Tillman goes back in time to write his part of the "Fitness Test Article" rebuttal



Matt's Column



Has anyone ever asked you a question you refused to answer on the basis that it was "none of their business"? How many times a day do you lie without thinking twice about it, just because you are afraid of being ostracized or misjudged? More than you realize most likely. But have you ever thought about what would happen if you weren't ashamed of certain aspects of your life, or if you had absolutely no qualms about releasing personal information?

It has become quite apparent to me that certain subjects have become somewhat taboo in our society. People consider it uncouth to ask about one's financial status, one's love life, etc., but what reason would one have to hold back such information? Embarrassment is a symptom of children. Must people be so insecure with themselves as to refuse to tell a questioner how much money they make? The difference to you is insignificant.

I have heard that some people do not like to give out personal information because it encourages quick, inaccurate judgements. If somebody wants to judge you, however, they're going to do it with or without the information you give them, and the more information you do give, the more accurate the judgements will be. And isn't fear of being judged somewhat shallow in itself? Perhaps not—it's only a matter of perspective—but either way, the logical choice would be to hide nothing (provided, of course, that you've committed to serious crimes or whatnot.)

As for myself, I have no secrets.

But when I say I have no secrets, I only mean secrets concerning myself. In other words, I do not tell others information which I've been requested to keep under wraps. To do so would be a violation of that person's privacy, which he/she has not authorized me to share. Justification for such an act does exist, but not universal justification, and so I do not advocate it.

Before you shrug off my suggestion, I urge you to imagine a world without personal secrecy. No longer would it be necessary to hide those things of which society and time have made us ashamed. Whenever inquired, or whenever you simply feel the need, have no ambitions about shouting, "Yes, I like to wear women's footwear!" or "I enjoy writing all over my body with different color magic markers!" There is no ignominy in proclaiming, "I've developed a fungus!" Let out your barbaric yawp, my good friends! Yell up to the heavens, "I wear the same underwear for weeks at a time!" "I smoke Virginia Slims and I don't care if it's 'A Woman Thing'!" "I like classical music!" "My favorite color is fuschia!" "I try to force feed my dog peanut butter!" and so forth and so on.

My people, it is your obligation to our society to carry out this proclamation: Feel not disgrace by yourselves and your lives! Do away with concepts of strictly personal or intimate details, for they simply restrain society. Tell the world who you really are, and your life will be enriched, I assure you. I give you my blessings.

MCCLURES
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Opinions

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Poll on High School Women

By Ben Sabel

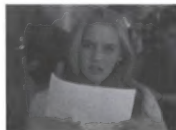
I, Ben Sabel, was brought in on this project as an expert on the topic of women.



Two hundred and seven MBA high school students were asked their

opinions on women and their preference of girls of other high schools.

What disturbs me most about the results of our poll, if I could draw your attention to the graph of "Schools with the Best Women", is that 3.8% of those polled said that MBA had the best women. Now, MAYBE one or two of the slower



types misread the question, and thought that you were being asked what school

you went to or something. But, seven? Seven guys found MBA women to be the best looking? What is wrong with you people?!?

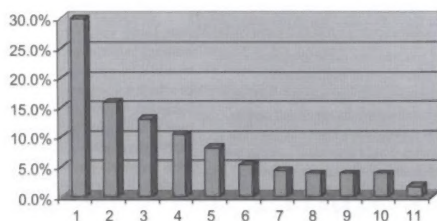
Now, those that choose Harpeth Hall, we have to talk. Do you really think that they are



the best looking? I'll give it to some of you that few are, but very FEW. I

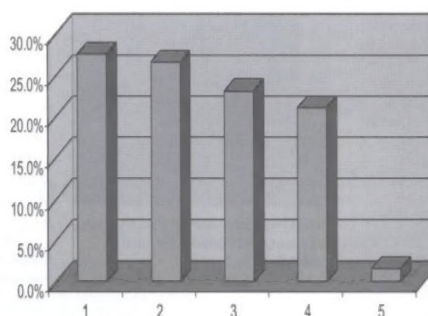
was happy to see that it wasn't a majority in favor of HH women, but 30% is sad.

Schools with the Best Women



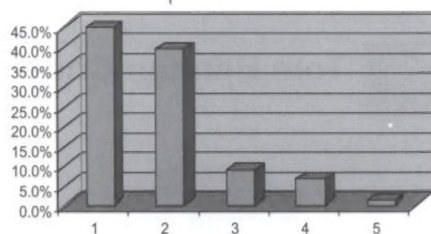
Number	Schools	Percentage
1	Harpeth Hall	30.0%
2	All Other Schools	15.9%
3	Brentwood Academy	13.0%
4	Brentwood High	10.3%
5	St. Cecilia	8.1%
6	Father Ryan	5.4%
7	Franklin Road Academy	4.3%
8	MBA ("Don't Ask, Don't Tell")	3.8%
9	Hillsboro High	3.8%
10	Franklin High	3.8%
11	David Lipscomb	1.6%

Best Relationship Length



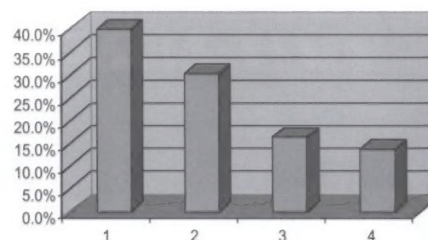
Number	Length	Percentage
1	Short Term	27.6%
2	Long Term	26.6%
3	One Night Stand	23.1%
4	Fling	21.1%
5	None	1.6%

Best Hair Color



Number	Hair Color	Percentage
1	Blond	44.6%
2	Brunette	39.1%
3	Other	8.9%
4	Red	6.4%
5	None (Baldies)	1.0%

Importance of Personality



Number	Importance	Percentage
1	Important	39.9%
2	Very Important	30.3%
3	Kind of Important	16.2%
4	Meaningless	13.6%

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Poll on High School Women (cont. from pg. 8)

Now, to discuss the "Terms of the Relationships." Anyone who picked a long-term

relationship as opposed to a short term is whipped. You honestly can't tell me that you would rather stay with one woman or multiple women of the same qualities. If you can, then you have problems.



Ben was glad to see that most (74.9%) prefer to have their woman call them. All of you that like to call your women, especially everyday, have serious issues with your role in the relationship.

Show me these couples, and I will definitely tell you who wears the pants in that relationship.

I'm not really going to comment on the preference of hair color of MBA's choice

woman, for every guy has his own thing. BUT, come on guys, two of you prefer bald chicks?

Now, when we discuss personality, you have to evaluate the motives for dating a girl. If you want a long, involved

love life, personality is important (and vice versa, if you "just wanna have fu-un," then you don't care if she eats her cereal with antifreeze).

Now, to the real part of the poll: what do the supposedly thought-

less, self-centered, and

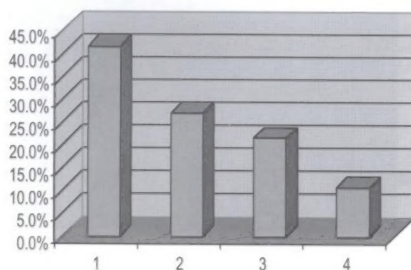
egotistical MBA guys think of their girl's appearance?

Good work guys, an overwhelming 57% said it was very important. To the dissenters who chose to deny the truth, the 1.45% who said it was meaningless and 6.24% said it was "kind-of important," you make me sick. These are the



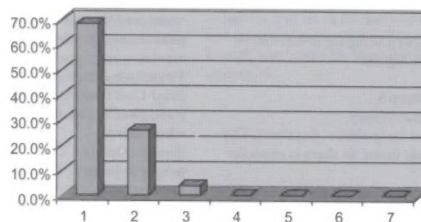
See "Poll," page 12

Intellectual Importance



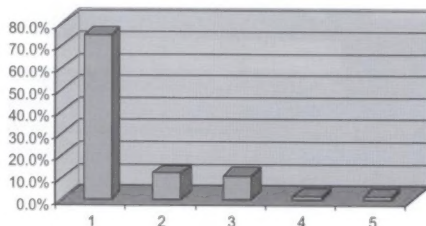
Number	Importance	Percentage
1	Important	41.4%
2	Kind of Important	26.8%
3	Meaningless	21.2%
4	Very Important	10.6%

Best Age



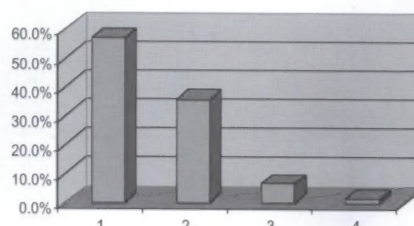
Number	Age	Percentage
1	Older by 2 Years	68.3%
2	Younger by 2 Years	26.1%
3	No Preference	3.6%
4	Younger by 4 Years	0.5%
5	Younger by 8 Years	0.5%
6	Younger by 10 Years	0.5%
7	Younger by 12 Years	0.5%

Best Phone Relationship



Number	Type of Relationship	Percentage
1	She Calls	74.8%
2	You Call Everyday	11.8%
3	You Call Once per Week	10.7%
4	Not at All	1.6%
5	He Calls	1.1%

Importance of Body



Number	Importance	Percentage
1	Very Important	57.0%
2	Important	35.2%
3	Kind of Important	6.3%
4	Meaningless	1.5%

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Entertainment

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Slick Willy's CAR OF THE MONTH

By Adam Mazzoni and
Jonathan Baird

Jim Ward's 1987 Chevrolet Blazer
104,000 miles

Ranking of 1 being the lowest and 10
being the highest

Color: **Brown**

Nickname: **Woody**

Backseat Sleep-ability: **Excellent; The
seat folds down, so there is room for
two.**

Mack-ability: **10; No explanation
needed.**

Escape-ability: **2; Worse acceleration
than David Dean's van.**
Number of Wrecks: **2; Hit a tree; hit a
parked car...but never hit anything
moving.**

Times Pulled Over: **0.**

Other Cool Features: **There is actual
wood paneling on the sides; has four
wheel drive.**

Personal Opinion: **That's for other
people to judge; I don't have a
personal opinion.**



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Entertainment

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You, Too, Can Learn to Love Buffy

By Jonathan Tam

I was once a staunch Buffy-hater. I stood against the hordes of hormone crazed, sex starved teenage masses and fought the popularity of Buffy. I thought the show was in line with intelligence sopping Baywatch and shows of that sort. But I was wrong. The show is so much more. I would even venture to call it deep, well written, and inspirational. It might not be the most intellectually stimulating on face value, but it lies much deeper. And what I find is very rewarding.

It was only a few months ago when I was exposed to the masterpiece of cinematic wonderment. I had always pushed it off until my sister, a buffyphile, forced me to watch an entire episode. After the initial moaning I started to like

the show. While the pneumatic Sarah Michelle Gellar did nothing to hinder my experience, it was actually the mix of sharp humor and whetted pop-culture references mixed with moments of pure insight that caught my eye. But the blend of comedy and drama was only the beginning of my journey into Buffyphile-land.

I started to think about Buffy's situation. Vampires and Werewolves were everywhere. But was I supposed to accept those creatures on face value? What do they represent? The second I asked that question, I see what all the hoopla is about. Vampirism and lycanthropy have and probably always will be metaphors for raging hormones. The sexual impulse of a vampire and uncontrollable change of a werewolf all parallel the troubles of a teenage life. In effect,

Buffy's unrelenting battle against the dark forces is no more than an everyday battle of adolescent angst. The metaphoric conflict is so well mixed with the cartoonish fights scenes and trite plots that the final product is so potent as to have something for everyone. The show is a veritable cornucopia of intellectual gems. Unlike its WB sister shows, Dawson's Creek and Seventh Heaven,

Buffy the Vampire Slayer does not overdramatize and soap-ify teen living. While Willow, Xander, Oz, and even Buffy may not be the average teen, their trials and tribulations are universal. With some help from the funny, punny, wisecracking, back-handed comment, this show is quite enjoyable.

Take it from a converted Buffy-hater, this show is very provocative. The show actually got me to think about my life a bit (how often does that happen when you're watching TV?). I mean, vampires perfectly describe the libidos of several of my friends. And as for werewolves, one only needs to step into the locker room once. Hairy? Scary? Very.

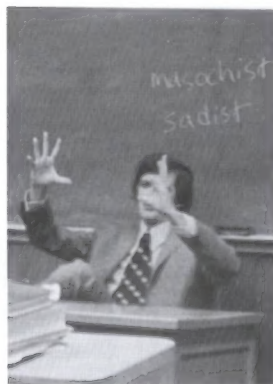
Deep thoughts and complex metaphors make this show great when portraying the total teen experience (whatever that is). If the more intellectual aspects of the show aren't gratifying enough, just watch the show for its nice casting job.



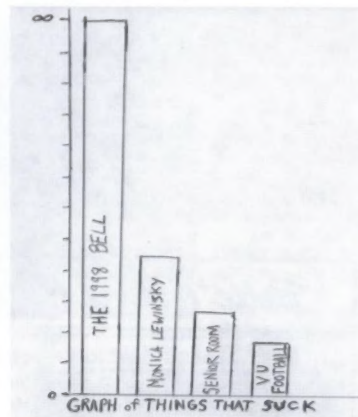
COMICS



Bell Ringer staff goes insane attempting to put out the best paper of all time



MBA Teachers of the past more crazy than today?

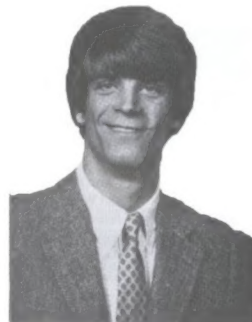


Flashbacks

This new feature in the Bell Ringer looks back on what teachers looked like in their past lives. The first installment here displays two of MBA's most popular teachers, courtesy of the 70's and 80's respectively.



Mr. Bowers, long before he became a state champion football coach, with his teeth looking as good as they ever did



Mr. Corzine, looking like he's not quite "all there" in his senior MBA photo

Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	TIME
December 18	Winter Break Begins		2:55 pm.
21	Chanukah Ends		
23	Predators vs. Red Wings	Nashville Arena	7:00 p.m.
25	Christmas		
26	Oilers vs. Minnesota Vikings	Dudley Field	12:00 p.m.
27-28	Big Red Basketball Shootout	MBA	
30	Predators vs. Boston Bruins	Nashville Arena	7:00 p.m.
January 1	New Year's Day		
2	Soup Kitchen	MBA	9:00 a.m.
4	Tostitos Fiesta Bowl:		
	Tennessee vs. Florida State	Tempe, AZ	7:00 p.m.
5	Classes Resume		8:00 a.m.
8-10	Southern Bell Forum	MBA	
15-22	First Semester Exams		
26	Second Semester Begins		

Belle Meade Cafeteria



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Sun 10:30 - 8:00PM
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Poll (cont. from pg.9)

guys that stay at home and date girls over the Internet, those sick-os. Intellect is the same as personality, as its importance depends on your dating motives.

Finally, age. Some perverts actually added choices to the poll and selected their own demented creations. Some of those include "12, 10, and 9 years younger". Leave MBA now, we don't want your kind. Oh, and also, the 26.1% that chose younger women as a preference should be shot in the face. If you had a choice between two identical women, one being 19 and the other being 15, you are telling me that you would choose the chick that can't even legally drive? Do you have problems? You are also forgetting the automatic bragging rights that come with the fact that you are dating an older, and incredibly attractive, girl. I probably know why you chose such

a lame path. Some of you are not very secure in your masculinity, and probably would prefer to dip low. And in dipping down, you are not put in those "scary positions" that an older and more experienced girl would put you in, normally to your enjoyment

(See note at end of article**)

In closing, I would like to add that I personally am a warm, caring, and sensitive guy. I would never date anyone in order just to "get it on," and I always consider a girl's personality and intellect before her looks. And, oh yeah, I like girls from all schools, including Harpeth Hall.

(**Note: If you are not a girl, then do not read any further; the next few sentences are total BS.**)